

## CLAIMS

## 1. A disk cartridge, comprising:

a cartridge body including a lower shell having formed therein a first opening for write and/or read and an upper shell butt-joined to the lower shell;

a rotation wheel housed rotatably in the cartridge body and which houses a disk and has formed therein a second opening corresponding to the first opening and through which the housed disk is exposed to outside; and

a shutter mechanism provided between the lower shell and rotation wheel and including a pair of shutter plates which are pivoted in conjunction with the rotation of the rotation wheel to uncover the first and second openings when the latter coincide with each other,

the rotation wheel having formed at the front side thereof, at which the disk cartridge is first inserted into a disk recorder and/or player, a to-be-operated portion in which a shutter releasing portion of the disk recorder and/or player is engaged; and

the to-be-operated portion being formed from a concavity opening the front side of the disk cartridge at which the latter is first inserted into the disk recorder and/or player.

## 2. The disk cartridge according to claim 1, further comprising a forcing member engaged at one end thereof on the cartridge body and at the other end on the rotation wheel to force the rotation wheel in a direction in which the shutter mechanism covers

the first opening.

3. The disk cartridge according to claim 2, wherein the to-be-operated portion is formed from a pair of operating pieces to open the front side at which the disk cartridge is first inserted into the disk recorder and/or player, one of the operating pieces which works in a direction in which shutter mechanism uncovers the first opening being formed larger than the other.

4. The disk cartridge according to claim 2, wherein there is formed along the periphery of the rotation wheel a flange which limits the position of the forcing member.

5. The disk cartridge according to claim 1, wherein one of the shutter plates is installed pivotably on a shaft formed on one of the shells while the other shutter plate is installed pivotably on a shaft formed on the other shell, any one, or both, of the two shafts being engaged at the free end thereof in a concavity formed in the inner surface of any one of the shells.

6. The disk cartridge according to claim 5, wherein the shaft of one of the shutter plates, installed pivotably on any one of the shells, and/or the shaft on the other shutter plate pivotably installed on the one shutter plate is formed thicker than the remaining portion.

7. The disk cartridge according to claim 1, wherein the one shutter plate has formed thereon a projection that is to abut an area, where no signals are to be recorded, of the disk when it is covering the first opening in the cartridge body.

8. The disk cartridge according to claim 1, wherein the second opening in the rotation wheel is formed to be wider outwardly as it goes toward the front side at which the disk cartridge is first inserted into the disk recorder and/or player.
9. The disk cartridge according to claim 1, wherein any one of the shutter plates has formed thereon a projection which is to be engaged on an engagement portion formed along the peripheral edge of the first opening when the latter is covered with the pair of shutter plates.
10. The disk cartridge according to claim 1, wherein along the front side of the first opening in the lower shell, there is formed a taper portion which is to accommodate the to-be-operated portion when the shutter mechanism covers the first opening.